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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Nakano et al.

Serial No.:

10/604,553

For.

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR FORMING ALIGNMENT

LAYER

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Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 28, 2005 and the Advisory Action dated September 20, 2005, Applicants respond as follows:

Listing of the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.